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# GEOGRAPHICAL LITERATURE AND MAPS

(INCLUDING ACCESSIONS TO THE LIBRARY)

## BOOK REVIEWS AND NOTICES

**Bygone Days in Chicago.** Recollections of the "Garden City" of the Sixties. By Frederick Francis Cook. xvi and 400 pp., nearly 100 illustrations from rare prints and photographs, and index. A. C. McClurg & Co., Chicago, 1910. \$2.75 net.

Probably no other man is so well qualified as Mr. Cook to write such a book as this about Chicago. The book is not a history, but it supplies abundantly, and in rich and large variety, the materials for history, for it paints the atmosphere and gives insight into the psychology of the young and lusty days of a great city in embryo; and, in an important sense, Mr. Cook was a part of what he saw and heard. He was a keen, alert and trusted newspaper reporter in a day when Chicago was so small that such a chronicler of the times as he, was acquainted with every one of consequence, was the repository of secrets as well as of news and gossip and knew just what was going on in all the strata of Chicago's life and activity. He has given in this book a most graphic picture of Chicago as a stripling, and it is all presented, not in the form of historical narrative but in the way of incident, anecdote and shrewd characterization of men and events. It is one of the most readable books of recent publication; and everything in it seems to have its own value for the light it throws upon those remarkable times and the manner and quality of the men who helped to build the foundations of Chicago.

**Camp and Camino in Lower California.** A Record of the Adventures of the Author while exploring peninsular California, Mexico. By Arthur Walbridge North. With a Foreword by Admiral Robley D. Evans, U. S. N. 346 pp., illustrations, bibliography and index. The Baker & Taylor Company, New York, 1910. \$3.

Mr. North loves the fascination of the wilds. Years ago, he chose as the scene of his adventures the most utterly neglected wild he could find on our continent and that, of course, was the large peninsula of Lower California. He may almost be said to have made that great adjunct of Mexico his own special preserve, for he is the only English-speaking American and, as far as we know, the only man who has ever traversed it from end to end, zigzagging his way over the Sierras and across the desert plains between the Pacific and the Gulf. Mr. North is, to-day, our best authority on the geography of Lower California, and his first book, "The Mother of California," is the repository of a large number of hitherto unknown facts about that unique and untraveled region.

It is gratifying to see that the author has reproduced in the Appendix to the

present volume a succinct account, from his earlier work, of the natural features of Lower California. It is the best, condensed statement of the geography of Lower California that we have; and it is the fitting groundwork for this book-full of his adventures among the wild game of the mountains and the plain, among the Indians, the Mexicans, the Missions and the petroglyphs painted and drawn on the rocks by unknown predecessors of the present population. The volume is not only very entertaining, but has also distinct value for the added light it throws upon existing conditions and many phases of life in the peninsula.

**The Life of George Grenfell.** Congo Missionary and Explorer. By George Hawker. xxvi and 576 pp., 70 illustrations from photographs, 5 maps and index. Fleming H. Revell Company, New York and Chicago, 1909. \$2.

George Grenfell was a great explorer as well as a great missionary. Next to Alexander Delcommune, he revealed to the world more of the Congo basin than any other man. He was the pioneer explorer of several of the large southern tributaries, he discovered the lower part of the Mobangi affluent, the largest Congo tributary, and ascended it for 400 miles; and he made the best survey and map of the Congo between Stanley Pool and Stanley Falls that has been produced. He ranks among the great African explorers, and the Founder's Medal which the Royal Geographical Society bestowed upon him was a just recognition of his merit.

At the same time, he never lost sight, for a moment, of the missionary service to which he had dedicated his life. He not only preached the gospel, but he believed in the industrial education of the natives and was a powerful influence in promoting it. The future prosperity of the Congo will depend, to quote his own words, upon "the gradual development of a more or less educated community, with a personal interest in the exploitation of the resources of their country."

It was agreed that Sir Harry Johnston, in his book on Grenfell, should treat of him as the explorer, while Mr. Hawker, in the present volume, should deal with the missionary side of the man. But Grenfell was a missionary who was always an explorer and an explorer who was always a missionary, and it is very difficult to keep the two phases of his great work apart. We see not a little of the explorer in this book, but, after all, the great, modest missionary dominates. In this volume is finely revealed the man who gave his life to the Congo peoples, his practical common sense, his fullness of resource, his gentleness, the love the people gave him and the good he did.

**Die Vereinigten Staaten von Amerika.** Ihre politische, wirtschaftliche und soziale Entwicklung. Von Dr. Paul Darmstaedter. vi and 242 pp. and index. Quelle & Meyer, Leipzig, 1909. M. 4.

The author is professor of history in Göttingen. The small size of the book imposes great limitations upon the historical treatment of the United States from its colonial days to the present time and the author's attention is necessarily confined to the essence of things. He attempts to give only those factors and results of our political, industrial and social development that count most in a correct appreciation of this country. From our own point of view, it may be said that he has succeeded admirably in this effort. The book has no resemblance to those